

66 *THE CASTAWAYS OF THE FLAG*

" Before we came to the end of heaps like that,
of course- -. But we have still got something
to boil the pot with to-day* Now we must find
something to put in it! "

" Let's look about/' Frank answered.
The cliff was formed of irregular strata. It
was easy to recognise the crystalline nature of
these rocks, where feldspar and gneiss were mixed,
an enormous mass of granite, of plutonic origin
and extreme hardness.

This formation recalled in no respect to Fritz
and Frank the walls of their own island from
Deliverance Bay to False Hope Point, where
limestone only was found, easily broken by pick
or hammer. It was thus that the grotto of Rock
Castle had been fashioned* Out of solid granite,
any such work would have been impossible.

Fortunately there was no need to make any
such attempt. A hundred yards from the bastion,
behind the piles of sea-wrack, they found a number
of openings in the rock. They resembled the
cells of a gigantic hive, and possibly gave access
to the inside of the rock.

There were indeed several cavities

at the foot
of this cliff.

While some provided only small
recesses, others
were deep and also dark, owing to
the heaps
of sea-weed in front of them. But it
was quite
likely that in the opposite part, which
was less